

## **Canadian Technology in New European Union -South Asia Business Cluster**

Paris and Vancouver – Tuesday, December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2008

Not all the economic news in Canada is bad these days ... Vancouver-based Storm Computing Systems Inc. is expanding online business services of the World Chambers of Commerce Network (WCN) via a new European – South Asia business cluster project.

The WCN announced that Storm Computing Systems Inc., a software services firm, will build a new *'European Union - South Asia specialty business cluster'* that will be added to the regional cluster segments of the WCN's online global backbone structure.

The Paris-based WCN hosts the official chamber of commerce online service system of the world business organization™. Chambers of Commerce are the oldest and largest business group in the world and include about 13,000 chambers worldwide with well over 40 million business members, ranging from small and mid-sized business to Fortune 500 companies.

The WCN South Asia business cluster, financed by the European Union as well as other private and public agencies abroad, will offer a family of online services based on the trusted global chamber brand to provide level-playing field business opportunities between select European and South Asian markets.

This will include trusted online tools and venues for international trade and technology transfer such as ChamberTrust, Chamber eVault and TTBX, as well as other business development and marketing tools such as GBX, a global business opportunity exchange. There are also venues for secured legal communication between firms, and a secure online 'contract room' with element of proof features to protect intellectual property in the EU / South Asia cluster.

In phase one, the new cluster will service firms in Paris and Madrid in Europe, and South Asian nations such as India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, the Maldives and Bhutan. The local Paris and Madrid chambers have many hundreds of thousands of business members each, and all told, the new EU / South Asia business cluster on its own will serve millions of businesses.

"The new EU / South Asia business cluster will mark a valuable addition of new opportunities for businesses in these regions" said Georges Fischer, Chairman of the WCN, from Paris. "The economic times we are in put extraordinary pressure on businesses the world over, and we are pleased to provide additional 'market-making' assistance in developing import - export markets via trusted branding and online services. This helps to lower costs and increase sales of businesses in these challenging times", Mr. Fischer added.

Dr. Roslyn Kunin, CM, newly appointed chair of the Advisory Board, added from Vancouver "we are excited that Vancouver based technologies continue to successfully compete at the global business organization level. It is building on over eight years of work with the World Chambers, and its technologies such as Chamber eVault already serve business regions across the globe".